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nature

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call of nature	
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freak of nature	
human nature	

Main Entry: **na·ture** 

Pronunciation: 'nA-ch&r

Function: *noun*

Etymology: Middle English, from Middle French, from Latin *natura*, from *natus*, past participle of *nasci* to be born -- more at [NATION](#)

1 **a** : the inherent character or basic constitution of a person or thing : [ESSENCE](#)
b : [DISPOSITION](#), [TEMPERAMENT](#)

2 **a** : a creative and controlling force in the universe **b** : an inner force or the sum of such forces in an individual

3 : a kind or class usually distinguished by fundamental or essential characteristics
<documents of a confidential *nature*> <acts of a ceremonial *nature*>

4 : the physical constitution or drives of an organism; *especially* : an excretory organ or function -- used in phrases like *the call of nature*

5 : a spontaneous attitude (as of generosity)

6 : the external world in its entirety

7 **a** : humankind's original or [natural](#) condition **b** : a simplified mode of life resembling this condition

8 : the genetically controlled qualities of an organism

9 : [natural](#) scenery

synonym see [TYPE](#)

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